Honoree Update--Awards Luncheon--June 21, 2011

Inner City Law Center is delighted to announce that former California Supreme Court Justice Carlos R. Moreno, the international law firm of O'Melveny & Myers LLP and attorney Paul Salvaty will be honored at our Eleventh Annual Awards Luncheon. This year’s event will be held on Tuesday, June 21, from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the historic Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. More than 300 people from the legal, political, and corporate communities are expected to attend the luncheon. Justice Moreno is being honored for his distinguished history of protecting human rights, securing civil liberties, and promoting social justice and O'Melveny & Myers and Paul Salvaty are being honored for their extraordinary pro bono accomplishments. (Read More...)

To become a sponsor or purchase tickets click here.

For more information, please contact Harry Batt at (213) 891-2803 or via e-mail at HBatt@innercitylaw.org.

Expanding our Board

Inner City Law Center is proud to announce the addition of four new members to our Board of Directors. Each brings a valuable array of experiences and talents to Inner City Law Center that will allow us to better serve our clients. The new Board members are:

Justice Carlos R. Moreno is Of Counsel at Irell & Manella LLP. Prior to joining Irell, he served for ten years as an Associate Justice of the California Supreme Court. From 1998 to 2001, Justice Moreno served as U.S. District Court judge for the Central District of California by appointment of President Bill Clinton. He has also served as the President of the Mexican American Bar Association and Co-chair of the Child Welfare Council.

Andy Esbenshade is a partner at Caldwell Leslie & Proctor, PC. Prior to joining Caldwell Leslie, he clerked for the Honorable Mariana R. Pfaelzer on the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. Mr. Esbenshade has argued cases before the California Court of Appeal and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Lois R. Fishman is Vice President, Counsel at The Walt Disney Company. Prior to joining Disney, she practiced at Neff Law Group LLP in California. She served as President of the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Copyright Society for the 2008-2009 term and currently sits on the Board of Advisors of the Corporate Counsel Institute of Georgetown University Law Center.

John M. Gatti is a partner at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP. Prior to joining Stroock, he was a principal shareholder with Greenberg Traurig. Mr. Gatti is the National Chairman of Stroock’s Entertainment Litigation Practice Group.

The Shriver Project
Establishing a Right to Counsel

Inner City Law Center is one of four prominent legal aid groups that have been awarded $8.4 million over three years to provide legal representation and other assistance to 15,000 people facing eviction in some of Los Angeles’ poorest neighborhoods. The unprecedented program is the largest of seven pilot projects in...
California awarded funding on April 29th by the Judicial Council of California to provide legal representation to low-income families in high-stakes civil cases. This historic effort will help ensure that even low-income people in California will have a fair opportunity to be heard in our courts.

The Los Angeles program, called the Eviction Legal Assistance Center, is a partnership among Inner City Law Center, Neighborhood Legal Services, Public Counsel and the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles. It will be located at the downtown Stanley Mosk Courthouse where more than 25 percent of the County’s 70,000 Unlawful Detainer cases were filed last year by landlords seeking to evict tenants.

Inner City Law Center routinely handles cases where foreclosing banks illegally evict tenants from apartment buildings; landlords illegally evict low-income tenants for daring to complain about slum conditions; and families in danger of losing the homes where they have lived for decades because a single rent payment was late. Even tenants with meritorious claims lose if they do not have legal representation. Rather than deal with the human and financial costs of homelessness from an illegal eviction, it is far more efficient to ensure fair court proceedings.

The project will provide valuable evidence of the impact of legal representation on court outcomes. According to Gary Blasi, Professor at UCLA Law School and ICLC board member, “In addition to providing representation to thousands of low income people, the project will provide critically important data on what happens in similar cases when both sides, rather than just one, have a lawyer. The project will help answer definitively the question of whether, in critically important decisions by our legal system, we can achieve a just outcome when only one has a lawyer.”

The program is expected to begin as early as October 2011.

Military Sexual Trauma and ICLC’s Homeless Veterans Project in The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The military too quickly destroys records from the hundreds of rapes and sexual assaults reported confidentially each year, say victims’ advocates and some members of Congress.

They say the practice can hamper successful disability claims by victims or the prosecution of offenders. They want the military to preserve and centralize all reports of rape, assault or harassment. (Read More...)

About Inner City Law Center

Inner City Law Center has been serving the poorest and most vulnerable individuals and families in Los Angeles County since 1980. Founded on the basic principle that every human being should be treated with dignity and respect at all times, ICLC, through its staff of more than 30 attorneys, advocates, tenant organizers, social workers, and other professionals, provides free legal representation and social service advocacy to over 2,000 homeless and working poor clients each year.

As the only full-time provider of legal services headquartered on Skid Row, ICLC is widely recognized for its expertise in housing issues, as well as government and veterans benefits.

Inner City Law Center
1309 East 7th Street
Los Angeles, California 90021
(213) 891-2880